

Message Text

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20

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /079 W

----- 035382

R 070735Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4829

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AG, SS

SUBJECT: SAHARA: ALGERIA'S EFFORT AT OAU

1. DESPITE FAILURE OF OAU SUMMIT TO AFFIRM ITS MINISTERIAL RESOLUTION ON SAHARA, ALGERIAN MEDIA OVER WEEKEND TREAT OAU'S ACTION AS TRIUMPH. PRESS HEADLINES DECISION TO DEVOTE SPECIAL SUMMIT MEETING TO SAHARA PROBLEM AND ASSERTS THAT THIS MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE "WITH PARTICIPATION OF SAHRAOUI." PRESS ALSO CLAIMS THAT OAU MINISTERIAL LEVEL RESOLUTION CONSTITUTES DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF POLISARIO. MOROCCAN AND MAURITANIAN "MANEUVERS" DERIDED IN PREDICTABLE TERMS.

2. ON JULY 3, FOREIGN MINISTRY NORTH AMERICAN AND WESTERN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS CHIEF ABERKANE WAS EXULTANT AT MINISTERIAL ACTION WITH OUT PROMPTING, HE SAID THAT BOUTEFLIKA'S ATTENDANCE HAD REPRESENTED ESCALATION ON GOA'S PART. AFRICANS, HE ADDED, MORE SENSITIVE RE DECOLONIZATION QUESTIONS THAN ARE ARABS.

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3. COMMENT: FROM OUR VANTAGE POINT, NOT CLEAR HOW
DECISION RE SPECIAL OAU SUMMIT ON SAHARA WAS
REACHED. THIS MOVE MITIGATES SOMEWHAT ALGERIAN TRIUMPH
AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL. NEVERTHELESS, SAHARA QUESTION
NOW VERY MUCH ON OAU'S MIND, AND BOUTEFLIKA'S TRIP
TO PORT LOUIS HAS PAID DIVIDENDS TO GOA. LYNE

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Message Attributes

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